

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (previously presented) A method of recognizing whether a transponder designed for communicating with a communication station belongs to one of at least two groups of transponders under which method the communication station designed for communicating with the transponder delivers a request signal to the transponder, which request signal comprises a command data block and a check data block, and under which method, data contained in the request signal is evaluated in the transponder in order to recognize whether the transponder belongs to a group of transponders,

wherein, for each group of transponders, a check data block that is significant for the group of transponders is generated, and

wherein the data that is evaluated for the recognition of whether the transponder belongs to a group of transponders is data from the check data block that is significant for the group of transponders.

2. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein a CRC data block that is significant for the group of transponders is selected as the check data block that is significant for the group of transponders.

3. (previously presented) A communication station for communicating with a transponder, which transponder belongs to one of at least two groups of transponders, wherein the communication station contains means for implementing the method as claimed in claim 1.

4. (currently amended) A communication station as claimed in claim 3, wherein check-data-block generation means is provided and wherein the check-data-block

generation means takes the form of CRC-data- block generation means, which CRC-data-block generation means interacts with start-value memory means, which is provided to store a group-significant start value, which group-significant start value is provided in order to influence the generation of the CRC data block in the CRC-data-block generation means and wherein the start-value memory means is of programmable design and is designed for storing different group-significant start values, which different group-significant start values can be written to the start-value memory means and are responsible for the generation of different CRC data blocks, of which different CRC data blocks, each CRC data block is significant for a group of transponders

5. (previously presented) A circuit for a communication station for communicating with a transponder, which transponder belongs to one of at least two groups of transponders, wherein the circuit contains means for implementing the method as claimed in claim 1.

6. (currently amended) A circuit as claimed in claim 5, wherein check-data-block generation means is provided and wherein the check-data-block generation means takes the form of CRC-data-block generation means, which CRC-data-block generation means interacts with start-value memory means, which is provided to store a group-significant start value, which group-significant start value is provided in order to influence the generation of the CRC data block in the CRC-data-block generation means, and wherein the start-value memory means is of programmable design and is designed for storing different group-significant start values that are each assigned to a different group of transponders, which different group-significant start values can be written to the start-value memory means and are responsible for the generation of different CRC data blocks, of which different CRC data blocks, each CRC data block is significant for a group of transponders.

7. (previously presented) A transponder for communicating with communication station, which transponder belongs to one of at least two groups of transponders, wherein the transponder contains means for implementing the method as claimed in claim 1.

8. (currently amended) A transponder as claimed in claim 7, wherein check-data-block generation means is provided and wherein the check-data-block generation means takes the form of CRC-data-block generation means, which CRC-data-block generation means interacts with start-value memory means, which is provided to store a group-significant start value, which group-significant start value is provided in order to influence the generation of the CRC data block in the CRC-data-block generation means, and wherein the start-value memory means is of programmable design and is designed for storing different group-significant start values that are each assigned to a different group of transponders, which different group-significant start values can be written to the start-value memory means and are responsible for the generation of different CRC data blocks, of which different CRC data blocks, each CRC data block is significant for a group of transponders.

9. (currently amended) A transponder as claimed in claim 8, wherein the start-value memory means is designed to store at least two different group-significant start values, and wherein means for sending one group-significant start value selected from the at least two group-significant start values to the CRC-data-block generation means are provided.

10. (previously presented) A circuit for a transponder for communicating with a communication station, which transponder belongs to one of at least two groups of transponders, wherein the circuit contains means for implementing the method as claimed in claim 1.

11. (currently amended) A circuit as claimed in claim 10, wherein check-data-block generation means is provided and wherein the check-data-block generation means takes the form of CRC-data-block generation means, which CRC-data-block generation means interacts with start-value memory means, which is provided to store a group-significant start value, which group-significant start value is provided in order to influence the generation of the CRC data block in the CRC-data-block generation means, and wherein the start-value memory means is of programmable design and is designed for storing

different group-significant start values that are each assigned to a different group of transponders, which different group-significant start values can be written to the start-value memory means and are responsible for the generation of different CRC data blocks, of which different CRC data blocks each CRC data block is significant for a group of transponders.

12. (currently amended) A circuit as claimed in claim 11, wherein the start-value memory means is designed to store at least two different group-significant start values, and wherein means for sending one group-significant start value selected from the at least two group-significant start values to the CRC-data-block generation means are provided.

13. (new) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the check data block contains a set of error correction data that is used both for error correction at the transponder and to determine whether the transponder belongs to a particular group of transponders.

14. (new) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the transponders process the command data block only if evaluation of the check data block of the request signal indicates that the transponder belongs to the group of transponders that is identified by the check data block.